

**Milliman Client Report**



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**Kaiser Foundation Health Plan, Inc. (KFHP)  
Kaiser Permanente Insurance Company (KPIC)**

**Small Group POS 7/1/2011 Rate Filing  
Actuarial Certification**

Prepared for:  
**Kaiser Foundation Health Plan, Inc.  
Kaiser Permanente Insurance Company**

Prepared by:  
**Milliman, Inc.**

**Susan E. Pantely, FSA, MAAA**  
Consulting Actuary

650 California Street  
17<sup>th</sup> Floor  
San Francisco, CA 94108 USA

Tel +1 415 403 1333  
Fax +1 415 403 1334

[milliman.com](http://milliman.com)

Milliman Client Report

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**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

<b>ACTUARIAL MEMORANDUM</b>	<b>KFHP/KPIC – SMALL GROUP POS POLICY FILING</b>	<b>3</b>
Qualifications		3
Scope		3
Reliance		3
Testing Procedures		3
Opinion – Actuarially Sound in the Aggregate		3
Opinion – Reasonable Premium Rate Increases		3
Factors Not Considered		4
<b>APPENDIX A</b>	<b>STATEMENT REGARDING ACCURACY AND COMPLETENESS OF THE UNDERLYING DATA SOURCES</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>APPENDIX B</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION OF TESTING PROCEDURES</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>APPENDIX C-1</b>	<b>ANNUAL RATE INCREASE PERCENTAGE</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>APPENDIX C-2</b>	<b>EXPERIENCE VOLUME</b>	<b>9</b>

Milliman Client Report

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## **ACTUARIAL MEMORANDUM KFHP/KPIC – SMALL GROUP POS POLICY FILING**

### **Qualifications**

I, Susan E. Pantely, am a member of the American Academy of Actuaries and meet its qualification standards for actuaries issuing statements of actuarial opinions in the United States. This actuarial certification is prepared on behalf of Kaiser Foundation Health Plan, Inc. and Kaiser Permanente Insurance Company (the "Company") to comply with California Health and Safety Code section 1385.06 (b) (2).

I am affiliated with Milliman, Inc. ("Milliman"), an independent actuarial consulting firm that is not affiliated with, nor a subsidiary, nor in any way owned or controlled by a health plan, health insurer or a trade association of health plans or insurers.

### **Scope**

As a consulting actuary with Milliman, I have written this actuarial memorandum at the request of the Company to discuss the rate filing for its small group POS policies. The proposed rates included in this filing will be effective for new and existing members enrolling or renewing on or after July 1, 2011. Rates are guaranteed for 12 months following the effective date or renewal date.

This statement of opinion complies with the Actuarial Standards of Practice 8 and 41, promulgated by the Actuarial Standards Board.

### **Reliance**

I have relied upon information provided by Mr. Boris Shekhter, FSA, MAAA at the Company. While I reviewed the information for reasonableness, I did not audit the underlying data for correctness. **Appendix A** contains Statement Regarding Accuracy and Completeness of the Underlying Data Sources provided to me as part of my review, and forms a part of this opinion.

### **Testing Procedures**

As part of my review, I followed the testing procedures outlined in **Appendix B**.

### **Opinion – Actuarially Sound in the Aggregate**

In my opinion, the proposed small group POS premium rates for business in California are actuarially sound in the aggregate, the total of projected premium income, expected reinsurance recoveries, governmental risk adjustment cash flows, and investment income is adequate to provide for expected health benefit costs, settlement costs, marketing and administrative expenses, and cost of required capital as provided to me by the Company.

### **Opinion – Reasonable Premium Rate Increases**

In my opinion, the proposed premium rate increases are reasonable. I based my opinion of reasonable rate increases on the factors below. The factors I considered were specifically required in Section A of the SB 1163 Guidance, titled "Unreasonable Rate Increases." The order of discussion below follows the order of factors listed in Section A of the SB 1163 Guidance. The assumptions, data used and other relevant information used in the rating filing development are included in **Appendix C**.

1. The annual premium rate increases by product and region are shown as **Appendix C-1**.

Milliman Client Report

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2. The assumptions on which the rate increases are supported by substantial evidence. (Section A.2.)
3. The choice of assumptions relating to per capita increases and other assumptions is reasonable. (Section A.3.)
4. The data, assumptions, rating factors, and methods used to determine the premium rates provide sufficient clarity such that a qualified health actuary could make an objective appraisal of the reasonableness of the rate. Due to low membership, the data is not credible. However, a qualified actuary could make an objective appraisal given the historical loss ratio, proposed rate increases, and low membership provided in this certification. (Section A.4.)
5. The proposed rates result in rates between insured within similar risk categories that are permissible under applicable California law, and the premium differences correspond to differences in expected claims costs between allowable risk classes. (Section A.5.)

**Appendix C-2** shows member months, member dues, incurred claims, and loss ratios for the time period 1/1/2010 – 12/31/2010.

6. As stated above, in my opinion, the proposed small group PPO premium rates for business in California are actuarially sound. Therefore, the cumulative impact of the filed rate increases, combined with the previous increases, result in reasonable premium rates. (Section A.10.)
7. The premiums rate increase ranges from 6.1% to 14.8% and there are no changes in rating factors. Therefore, the premium rate increases do not appear to be overly burdensome on any particular group. (Section A.12.)

#### Factors Not Considered

Section A of the SB 1163 Guidance also listed the following items to review. I did not consider them in forming my opinion of a reasonable rate increase.

1. Due to low membership, the credible claims experience data is not available. Therefore, a reliable loss ratio cannot be projected. (Section A.1.)
2. Due to low membership, credible experience data for the prior three years is not available. (Section A.6.)
3. The company's rate of return, evaluated on a return-on-equity basis, for the prior three years and anticipated rate of return for the following year. (Section A.7.)
4. The company's employee and executive compensation. (Section A.8.)

The employee and executive compensation is part of the overall administrative expense assumed in the premium development. I did not review the compensation levels of the staff or executives and offer no opinion on the appropriateness of the compensation levels.

5. The degree to which the rate increase exceeds the rate of medical cost inflation index. (Section A.9.)

The proposed average annual premium rate increase of 12.0% is greater than the medical care component of the CPI for 2010 of 3.4%.



Milliman Client Report

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While the proposed rate increase is larger than the medical costs index, there are material differences between the two measures provide an explanation as to the reasonability of the rate increase. The medical component of the CPI measure prices inflation at the retail level. That is, it measures the prices paid for a fixed market basket of medical goods and services. The medical CPI is a retrospective measure and does not account for expected future spending, which is the basis for premium rate setting.

The following are examples of factors that are included in the premium rate increase that are not included in the CPI measure:

- Increased per capita utilization of services
- Cost for new technologies
- Changes in provider practice patterns or the intensity of the service being provided
- Changes in enrollment mix
- New mandated benefits
- Adverse selection
- Deductible leveraging effect
- Changes in provider mix and negotiated provider payment arrangement

6. The insurer's surplus and dividend history. (Section A.11.)

7. The nature and amount of transactions between the filing insurer and any affiliates. (Section A.13.)

Respectfully Submitted,



Susan E. Pantely, FSA, MAAA  
Member of the American Academy of Actuaries  
May 25, 2011

Milliman Client Report

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**APPENDIX A  
STATEMENT REGARDING ACCURACY AND COMPLETENESS  
OF THE UNDERLYING DATA SOURCES**

Items Relied upon During Testing by Milliman:

- 2010 member dues, member months, and medical costs.
- July 2011 California small group proposed rate increases by POS product.
- July 2011 California small group POS Standard rates.

The sources identified above were relied upon by Milliman, Inc. in preparing this statement of actuarial opinion.

I, Boris Shekhter, hereby affirm that the data sources identified above, and attached to this statement, were prepared under my direction, and to the best of my knowledge are accurate and complete unless otherwise noted below.

5/26/11      B. Shekhter  
Date                      Signature

Boris Shekhter, FSA, MAAA  
Actuarial Director  
Kaiser Foundation Health Plan

Milliman Client Report

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## **APPENDIX B DESCRIPTION OF TESTING PROCEDURES**

1. Due to low membership, the experience data is not credible enough to develop premium rates. Therefore, I tested the reasonability of rates by performing an independent pricing of benefits for select plans based on the Milliman Health Cost Guidelines™ (HCGs).

The Milliman HCGs provide a flexible but consistent basis for the determination of claim costs and premium rates for a wide variety of health benefit plans. The HCGs are a cooperative effort of all Milliman actuaries and represent a combination of their experience, judgment, and research. In most instances, cost assumptions are based on our evaluation of several data sources and not specifically attributable to a single source.

Using the HCGs, I estimated the required premium rates if the Kaiser benefit design was offered by a traditional commercial health plan that contracts with independent medical providers to provide services. My assumptions for average provider reimbursement and utilization levels were based on my experience with well managed POS plans in the California market. The actual Kaiser premiums are lower than my estimated premium rates. Based on this, I concluded the rates are not excessive in the market.

2. The information provided by KFHP was tested for reasonableness and consistency. Our testing included, but was not limited to, reconciling data from various reports and comparisons across time periods.

## Milliman Client Report

## APPENDIX C-1

### ANNUAL RATE INCREASE PERCENTAGE

The following exhibit shows the annual rate increase percentage included in the July 1, 2011 filing by product and region.

AREA	PLAN	JUL-11 OVER JUL-10
Sacramento	POS 35	7.2%
	POS 35+GIFT	7.2%
	KCPS POS 20	7.2%
	KCPS POS 30	7.2%
Other Northern CA	POS 35	12.8%
	POS 35+GIFT	12.8%
	KCPS POS 20	12.8%
	KCPS POS 30	12.8%
Orange County	POS 35	14.8%
	POS 35+GIFT	14.8%
	KCPS POS 20	14.8%
	KCPS POS 30	14.8%
Kern	POS 35	6.1%
	POS 35+GIFT	6.1%
	KCPS POS 20	6.1%
	KCPS POS 30	6.1%
Other Southern CA	POS 35	11.7%
	POS 35+GIFT	11.7%
	KCPS POS 20	11.7%
	KCPS POS 30	11.7%



## Milliman Client Report

**APPENDIX C-2  
EXPERIENCE VOLUME**

The following exhibit shows member months, member dues, incurred claims, and loss ratio for the time period 1/1/2010 – 12/31/2010.

CALENDAR YEAR 2010 EXPERIENCE				
	Member Months	Incurred Claims	Member Dues	Loss Ratio
<b>Total</b>	14,261	\$ 11,304,921	\$ 8,094,271	139.7%